



The GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
August 2015 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 24, Issue 8



GARS 147.075 Repeater Moved



The GARS main repeater 147.075 pl 82.5 has moved to Snellville as of **June 13th, 2015**. 6 meters will move to Lanier Mountain on our 165 foot tower soon. Thanks to the repeater committee and GARS volunteers for making the move work smoothly.

See the pictures on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>



Message from the President

I want to start this note out by recognizing some of the people who have worked so hard on getting the W4GR repeater system back in order. I want to recognize David, KA4KKF for his coordination and planning to get this project completed; re-racking, engineering, and rewiring the equipment. Also for planning work parties and getting the “show on the road” as they say! Also special thanks to Eddie, WD4JEM for his antenna and tower work and assistance with engineering the repeater system. There are many others too numerous to mention that have helped with the grunt work of moving equipment out of the old site, delivering it to Snellville, and assisting in all other aspects of the work in the sweltering heat of June, July, and August.

If you did not already know, the W4GR GARS repeater had to be removed from the Lawrenceville water tower site since the county is about to sell the property and tear down the water tower. Research has been going on for months to try and find a suitable location that could at least equal the water tower site. After failing to find a new site it was decided that we would move the main repeater into the existing Snellville site. We have had a suitable tower there for many years but until now it was only considered a “backup” site and housed a secondary repeater and some beacons. After installing air conditioning, repairing the gate and fence, and some other general maintenance we are about 90% situated in the Snellville location. The generator was moved to Snellville just this week and will be installed and working very soon.

That leads me into my next subject... money. Repeater maintenance and antenna work can get very expensive. Your dues help and some of you are kind enough to voluntarily donate to the repeater fund. However, that does not cover eve-



“....For years now GARS has been lucky enough to help with the bi-annual “Cherokee Rose Cluster Dog Show” as a fund raiser. We do this in cooperation with Gwinnett ARES...”

rything. For years now GARS has been lucky enough to help with the bi-annual “Cherokee Rose Cluster Dog Show” as a fund raiser. We do this in cooperation with Gwinnett ARES and it provides a significant amount of our operating funds and ALL of ARES funds as they do not charge dues. It’s really an easy gig, especially the summer session. We collect fees and supervise the parking lot. There are two four hour shifts on the days of August 20, 21, 22, and 23.

Please visit the web site and sign up for a shift or two and help GARS and Gwinnett

ARES to survive. We all appreciate your assistance.

That leads me to my final subject, the Huntsville Hamfest. I’m planning on attending this year for the first time. This is one of the most popular hamfests in the southeast and I’m really looking forward to it. All the venues are indoors in the cool air-conditioned Von Braun Civic Center. There will be many great forums for both seasoned hams and newbies. Ask around on the repeater or the GARS Yahoo reflector. You can probably find a ride and some company for the 3½ hour drive. Hope to see you there.

73s,

Rick, N4XXY

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS July Meeting

“Working Half the US on 2 Meters & Above”

by K4CSO, Charles Osborne

Tuesday August 11, 2015

Start Time: 6:30 pm

Come Early—get a good seat!

Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1

690 Airport Road

Lawrenceville, GA 30045

[Directions](#)

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GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

D-Star

WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater

147.255(+) MHz
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)
No PL tone

70 Cm Repeaters

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
442.100(+) MHz
100 PL Tone

**Don't forget
to support our
advertisers at the
back of the
GARzette.**

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN
770-689-6620 or editor@gars.org



Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

Nick Doemland, AB4CQ

When you click on the link below to see it you will find this picture of him celebrating something. Read his biography and get to know him better. You'll be glad you did.

<https://www.qrz.com/db/ab4cq>

Here is an excerpt from his page:

"The person responsible for introducing me to Ham Radio is a close friend, mentor and Elmer of mine. "KA2KQM" loaned me a Kenwood HF rig and a 40 meter dipole to listen to HF."

Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!

Ray Bailey, N4GYN
Editor



Other Ham News

Just received word from Martha Muir, ARRL Section Youth Rep, that a net for youths will be starting in August. Check out the email I received and spread the word.

Ralph - KJ4CNC

It was officially announced last night that the **Youth Net** is on! The Youth Net for Young Hams (<18) will be held on Wednesdays, starting August 19, from 8 to 9 PM ET on the 145.47 [tone 100.0] (NF4GA Sweat Mountain) repeater. Please spread the word.

(Initially, Chuck Catledge, Jim Stafford, and I will help with this net but it is hoped that after a while the young hams will take it on themselves.)

Thanks for your help with this.
Martha, W4MSA

LIGHT YEAR . FM

LightYear.FM is a fun way to explore the reach of Earth's radio waves in the universe. Just by scrolling, you move away from Earth, hearing the music and broadcasts that are just now getting "there". Gene Pitney's [fan club could be growing](#). Remember that the [inverse square law](#) applies.

While you are listening, click on the various bodies of space to see what they are. On the time-line at the left, click on any time and hear what was being broadcast back then.

From ARRL Contest Update email

For more, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues?issue=2015-07-29>

ARRL Dues to Rise in 2016

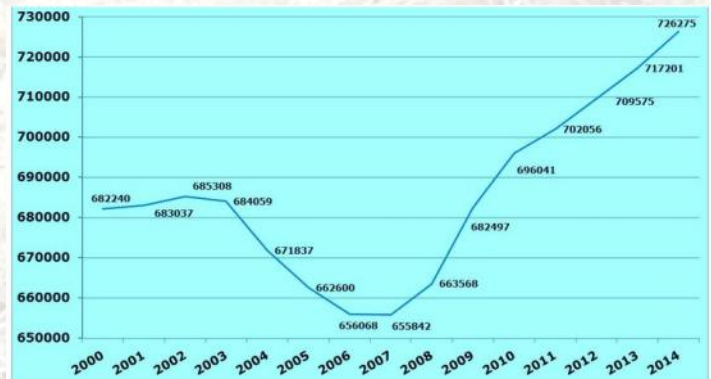
The Board approved a \$10 increase in the League's annual dues rate, effective January 1, 2016. In so doing, the Board adopted a recommendation of the Administration & Finance Committee. Read more at: <http://www.arrl.org/dues-increase-faq>

Radio News

VE's have done an excellent job!

"For the first time in the ARRL VEC program's history, we have conducted more than 7000 Amateur Radio exam sessions in a year, an important milestone," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "A total of 7216 ARRL-sponsored exam sessions were administered in 2014, compared to 6823 in 2013."

Somma said the number of new licensees spiked to more than 33,000 in 2014, up by about 15 percent from the previous year. **Successful license upgrades rose last year by an unprecedented 13 percent over a year earlier.**



US Amateur Radio numbers from 2000 through 2014. The FCC dropped the Morse code requirement in 2007. [Graph based on statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A]

Thanks to: **Jeff Cutchins-GARS MEDIA**
AB4HF
www.HamsOnCams.com
770-630-1582

Antenna Planning for Small Stations (and even large ones)

<http://k9yc.com/VertOrHorizontal-Slides.pdf>

This is a really great slide-show of antenna information!

More great info such as "Noise Sources" and "Power, Grounding, Bonding, and Audio For Ham Radio"

Is found at:

<http://k9yc.com/publish.htm>

Posted by K9YC on the Towertalk mailing list, Courtesy of Ed Goss, N3CW

100 Watts and a Wire with Christian Cudnik, KØSTH Officially Launches!

Fans of 'Ham Nation' may recognize Christian, KØSTH from his work as the host of the "New Ham" segment. '100 Watts and a Wire' is a program celebrating amateur radio through the eyes of a 'new' ham. The show will feature topical conversation and interviews, news and an entertaining look at the adventures of a new ham trying to figure things out.

<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?485171-100-Watts-and-a-Wire-with-Christian-Cudnik-K%20D8STH%E2%80%8B-Officially-Launches!>

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Courtesy of: **Jeff Cutchins-GARS MEDIA**
AB4HF
www.HamsOnCams.com
770-630-1582

SOTA - Summits On The Air



Summits On The Air

SOTA On The Web

You can't "do SOTA" without using the web. There is one essential site, several which are almost indispensable, and some that are somewhat useful. You may find it helpful to open a web browser and visit the referenced sites as you read this article.

SOTADData - Essential

sotadata.org.uk - You can't get by without SOTADData. This is where you record your QSOs. Some of the key activities on the main menu include:

- **Logon/Logoff** - You'll need to visit the "Register" sub-menu to sign up for an account. There's no cost to register and they don't spam you. Registering is not a commitment to activate or chase!
- **View Results** - You can view metrics about SOTA such as the count of registered summits (73,548), rankings of activators and chasers, and there's a special sub-menu for viewing your own results including your activations, unique summits, summit-to-summit (S2S) contacts, awards, etc. After each activation I check the "Activator Roll of Honor"... and confirm that I *still* haven't earned enough points to move up in the national ranking. :-)
- **Summits** - If you're an activator, you'll research a summit here before you head out on an expedition. This is where you find the list of official summits, how many points each summit is worth, who has activated it. (Tip: If lots of people have activated it, it is an easy summit.) Once you locate a summit, the "Extra Info" link will take you to a page where prior activators write-up how to get to the summit and what to expect when you arrive. One of the first places to visit when planning an expedition.
- **Submit Log** - This is where you record your QSOs. There's a sub-menu for entering QSOs one at a time. You'll probably use this for your first few activations/chases. You'll want to quickly move up to uploading CSV files. The [CSV format](#) is unique to SOTA, but several logging apps now support SOTA format.

SOTAWatch - Very Helpful

sotawatch.org is where activators post *alerts* to tell you when/where they plan to activate. Once a chaser hears an activator, he will typically *spot* the activation here too. Self-spotting is considered acceptable for SOTA.

If you have an iPhone, [SOTA Goat](#) uses SOTAWatch data to bleat a notice whenever a new spot is

(Continued on page 7)

SOTA - Summits On The Air

(Continued from page 6)

posted. There are also apps for Android, Windows, and OS X that perform similarly. The data from SOTAWatch is also posted to [Twitter](#).

SOTA Goat and its ilk are particularly helpful if you're interested in S2S contacts. If you're on a hill with cell coverage, you can get notified when other activators are on the air, giving you the info you need to call them.

SOTAMaps - Very Helpful

[sotamaps.org](#) shows the location of summits on a map. This helps you visualize just how far you're going to have to drive. [Here's a helpful URL](#) which plots 700+ summits within driving distance from Atlanta. The left panel is color coded to show you which summits have/haven't been activated.

North American SOTA Mailing List - Helpful

[groups.yahoo.com/groups/summits](#) hosts the official mailing list for the North American SOTA community. (Yahoo login required.) This is where you can ask other activators and chasers for how-to information. There are some clever antenna and balun designs posted here on occasion.

Like many Yahoo groups, a popular pastime is complaining about Yahoo. If you visit the site once, you can sign-up to have postings delivered to your email and you'll never have to look at Yahoo again.

My SOTA Site - Somewhat Helpful

[k4kpk.com/content/sota-menu](#) may also be of interest. It has how-to information, an archive of newsletter articles, and a library of trip plans for southeastern summits.

AR

See you on the summits!

73,

DE [K4KPK](#) / *Kevin*

Bio

K4KPK, Kevin Kleinfelter is Georgia's first SOTA Mountain Goat. He has completed more than 150 activations.

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Beginner's Corner

Give Your Radio's Signal Some Air - Part 2

Last time we talked about some indoor and vehicle antennas for your HT (handy talkie). We discussed the magnet mount antenna for your vehicle. The metal roof of your vehicle is what makes magnetic (mag) mount antennas so effective. Effectively, the roof in your vehicle becomes the other half of your antenna, or what is called a "counterpoise". Well if it works with a metal roof, can we use it indoors, as well? Sure! When I started out in amateur radio, I bought a mag mount antenna. When I was not in my vehicle, I sat it up on a high place in my shack on an unused pizza plate. Tops of refrigerators or big pieces of metal sheeting work as well. In fact, almost any piece of magnetic metal will yield some result. How will you know what piece of metal in your house works? Try it!

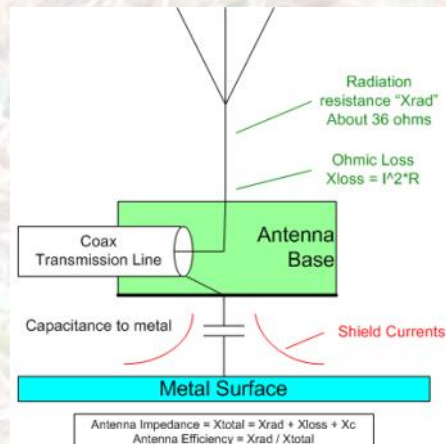


Now let's talk about some outside antennas. The first outside antenna I built was a ground plane. I made it out of 12 gauge solid copper wire. I found an article in a Ham Radio magazine. The article was called something like "The Ugly Ground plane Antenna". The article gave the dimensions for a two meter ground plane antenna. I thought to myself, "Why not try to build one? I bought an SO-239 connector and some wire and built one. I had it set up in my upstairs shack by pinning it to the ceiling with a map pin and some string. I had no way of measuring its effectiveness with any SWR (standing wave ratio or reflected power) meter, but it worked effectively enough for me to hit the GARS and other repeaters. I even took it out and set it up for a public service net. I strung it up on the inside of the roof of the pavilion where the event was set up. It looked cool and it was effective.

Next month, we'll discuss a couple more antennas. Until next time.

73,

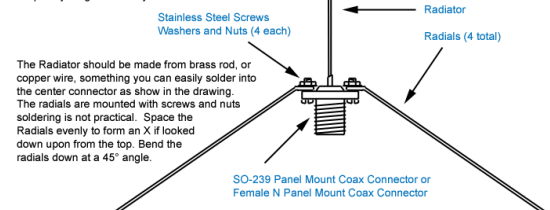
David - KJ4CMY



Ground Plane Antennas for 2m, 1.25m, and 70cm

Lengths:	146 MHz	220 MHz	440 MHz
Radiator	19.25"	12.75"	6.4"
Radials	20"	13.4"	6.75"

Tuning the antenna to resonance:
The antenna is tuned by varying the length of the Radiator. To lower the frequency, add to the Radiator; to raise the frequency, trim the Radiator. Trim carefully, about 1/8 of an inch at a time to achieve a 1:1 match in the center of the frequency range in which you transmit.



A14J1
David E. Rudd, CET WC

Historical Information

In October 1953 my best friend Bill Lile and I got permission from our school principal to be absent from school so that we could get our Ham Radio license. Our nearest exam point was Memphis, TN, about 110 miles from our home in northeast Mississippi. At that time, the Amateur Radio exams were given two times a year in Memphis. This was done in the basement of the main Post Office building located on the bluff just above the Mississippi river.

It was a cold morning and we arrived at the post office about an hour before the doors opened. We waited in a park right on the bluff freezing our butts off sitting on a bench near a statue of W. C. Handy, the father of the blues. Finally the Post Office doors opened. There were a couple other kids there taking the Novice exam along with us and the 5 WPM code receiving tests was given to all of us at the same time. The basement was solid concrete floors, walls and ceiling and every code character coming out of the speaker bounced around the room like in an echo chamber. Fortunately, both Bill and I passed the exam. It seemed like it took forever, but in mid December we received our "tickets" from the FCC. I was assigned WN5CLS and Bill's call was WN5CLU.

I didn't realize it until I read it in "Percy, Clarence, QST and the ARRL" that prior to 1953, there were no "K" prefixes assigned to hams in the 48 States. In 1953 the FCC started issuing "K" calls due to increased ham population and the "W" calls were depleted in some areas. In 1958 the US ham population reached 160,000, three times the number in 1946. With this increase the FCC started issuing "WA" calls in the 2nd and 6th call areas as the "W" and "K" 1x3 prefixes had run out.

Prior to 1978, if you moved from one call district to another, the FCC assigned you a new call. With several relocations during my working career I was assigned WA4KXU in NC, WB2GOH in NJ and WB4DCZ when we moved back south to GA in 1972. It wasn't until 1978 that all amateurs were allowed to either keep the same call or be assigned a new one when changing their radio district.

The Vanity Call Sign system that we now have didn't exist prior to 1993. We owe this to a Texas Extra Class amateur, Jim Wills N5HCT. In 1990 he filed a Petition for Rule Making to the FCC suggesting that radio amateurs be allowed to choose a dormant station call sign upon paying \$30. His petition was denied, so he wrote his Congressman who replied that he had contacted the FCC and that they were determining whether such a fee would collect enough money to pay for itself. This was all happening at a time when a system was being developed to have the FCC's budget basically paid for by the various beneficiaries of their services. Congress added a new section to the Communications Act authorizing the FCC to collect fees to recover its operating cost. Neither the FCC nor the ARRL had advance knowledge that "Amateur vanity call signs" was added to the Schedule of Regulatory Fees at the last minute.

So, my hat is off for Jim Wills, N5HCT. Otherwise I would still be stuck with WB4DCZ. Until I got my W4KLY (for Kelley) vanity call in 2007, no call other than my original call, W5CLS, felt right. When I first became aware of the Vanity Call System, my first thought was to try and get my old call back, but I was a couple of weeks too late: Christina L. Smith, then a resident of Texas, got my call and has since taken it all the way to Tacoma, WA.

Information Sources

Percy, Clarence, QST and The ARRL, Before, During and After the Birth of Amateur Radio by Larry Telles K6SPP
<http://www.oldqslcards.com/Vanity.pdf>

Submitted by: *Paul Kelly*, W4KLY



More Than You Asked For

Stay In The Loop!!!!

Get email notification from your club's events, updates, announcements.
Sign up for these links:

GARS Yahoo Group

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/GARS/info>

GARS on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/garsw4gr?ob=0>

GARS on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>

Ham Radio Homebrew on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Ham.Radio.Homebrew/>

GARS participates in JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (JOTA)



This is **not** just for Boy scouts. We welcome Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturing Scouts, Girl Scouts and anyone who wants to learn about Amateur Radio. We will be offering a Radio Merit Badge Class at JOTA. Additionally GARS member Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF will be teaching the Bugling Merit Badge.

Sign Up for Radio Merit Badge: [Sign Up for Radio Merit Badge](#)

Sign Up for Bugling Merit Badge: [Sign Up for Bugling Merit Badge](#)

The 58th ANNUAL JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (JOTA)
Saturday, October 17th from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Location: VFW Post 5255, 368 Grayson Highway, Lawrenceville

Lawrenceville, GA 30046
For details see the our flyer at

[JOTA-2015.pdf](#) or contact [Steve Back](#).



GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in July

Edwin Chwat (K2NED)

New Members: 1

**Total Members as of August 1, 2015
292**

**Join us for our weekly
breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays

at**

**Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

([Directions](#))

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in August:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS**

Kyle Albritton (W4KDA)
Emory Albritton
Bruce Brown (WA8IQF)
Stephen Dearman (KI4IXR)
Richard Dickson (W4WRD)
John Dreggors (K4SWV)
Raymond Elliott (KK4WOD)
Phillip Gary Greene (WA4TOL)
George Guerin (KM4BOS)
David Harden (KJ4CMY)
Rob Hoppe (KI4SBT)
Gary Jones (WW4HX)
Richard Jones (KM4JLB)
Mark Koenig (KM4AJE)
Ronald Koon (KM4HZP)
Juanita Koon (KM4KAC)
Doug Kregel (KB6RRX)
Ron Langston (WE5O)
Chris Lee (KI4RSZ)
Louis Manglass III (N4WWU)
Samuel McClure (KM4AAO)
Earl Whatley (AF4FG)
Laurence Whited (AB4NX)
Billy Zeyher (AB4RH)

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter email towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.), please email the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Committee Members: Richard Atkin, KJ4ZTY, Dave Bruse, W4DTR

Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROLLERS

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only eleven primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL	Ray - N4GYN
Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX	Bill KK4AUA
Kevin - KK4WOG	Chuck - KK4TKJ	

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I need 30 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan to post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you, as a rotating NCS, need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at KK4TKJ@arrl.net. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

Chuck McCord. KK4TKJ Net Manager



Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

Jeff—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5
6m 53.110 - No Tone
70cm 442.100 + PL 100.0

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

>>>> NOTE: For more information click the links <<<<

August

- 1-2 [August UHF](#)
- 15-16 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)
- 16 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

August

- 1-2 [August UHF](#)
- 15-16 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)
- 16 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

October

- 19-23 [School Club Roundup](#)
- 31-Nov 1 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

November

- 7-9 [Nov. Sweepstakes – CW](#)
- 21-23 [Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone](#)
- 28-29 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

Third - Party Calendars

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)

[3830 Contest Reflector](#)

[SM3CER Contest Calendar](#)

[Contesting.com](#)



HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeast US

08/15/2015 | [Alabama State Convention \(Huntsville Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Huntsville Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.hamfest.org>

09/12/2015 | [Hamfest Augusta](#)

Location: Grovetown, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Club of Augusta

Website: <http://www.facebook.com/hamfestaugusta>

09/12/2015 | [GADSDEN HAMFEST](#)

Location: Attalla, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Gadsden Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.garc.org>

11/07/2015 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Stone Mountain Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club

Website: <http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com>

11/21/2015 | [Montgomery ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Montgomery, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4ap.org/news/Hamfest.htm>

01/09/2016 | [TechFest 2016](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.GARS.org>

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, **Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ *Camping*
- ◊ *Hiking*
- ◊ *Horseback Riding*
- ◊ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

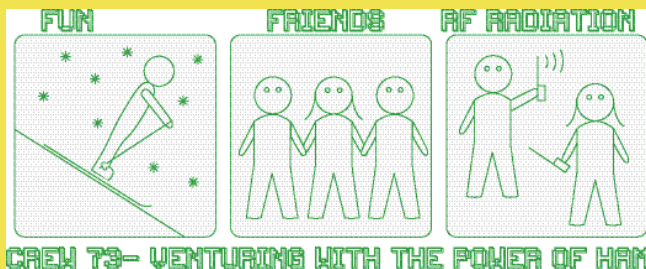
Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Jeff Lee, AF4JL

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, N4XYX
President



Mike Weathers, ND4V
Vice President



Nick Doemland, AB4CQ
Secretary



Sid Weaver, N4NQ
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Nick Nikley, N0NCQ
Program Manager



Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
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Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Ham Exam Team Leader



David Adcock, KA4KKF
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Ray Bailey, N4GYN
GARzette Editor



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Mike Weathers, ND4V
WAS-Checker, Historian



Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ
Net Manager,



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI
Technical Advisor



DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA



David Adcock, KA4KKF



Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV



EXTRA! EXTRA!

SEPTEMBER MEETING

*“The SARK 110 Antenna Analyzer”
by Bob Gerzoff, WK27*

Would YOU like to have **your** QRZ page featured in next month's GARzette? If so, please let me know by writing to me at: editor@gars.org [Ray, N4GYN]



Do you have ideas for the GARzette? What would you like to see or read in the next issue? Perhaps you have a pet subject that you would write about. It doesn't have to be perfect, not even close. You can send me your thoughts, ideas, pictures, comments, objections, or praises, and I can edit them to fit the GARzette style so that everyone can read them and make the GARzette more interesting.
Send all to: editor@gars.org [Ray, N4GYN]

GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net
+
8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

JUNE MEETING MINUTES

Rick, N4YXX, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

First time visitors welcomed and roundtable introductions were made. Ticket upgrades recognized.
69 attendees were present

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved

Karen, K14HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 303 members

NOTE: Rick reminded us that our designation as a "Special Service Club" requires that 50% of membership also be an ARRL member (GARS receives a portion of the sign-up and renewal fee. see Sid, N4NQ for details)

Nick, N0NCQ, announced upcoming programs, the August program will include special guest speaker Charles Osborne (K4CSO) talking about "Working half the US on 2 meters and above"

Repeater Update – efforts continue to incorporate the 147.075 repeater and all its peripherals into the Snellville site. Work that still needs to be completed includes relocation of the backup generators, setup of 6 meters and installation of Internet services.

13 Colonies Contest – audience polling indicated that a large number of GARS members not only participated in the contest but also completed a "clean sweep" making contact with all 13 of the original colonies.

Upcoming Events

Dog Show

Date: August 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd

Time: 6:00am to 2:00pm

Location: 3650 Jonesboro Rd SE, Atlanta, GA 30354

NOTE: Sign-up sheets will be available on the GARS website

DC3 Special Events Station

Date: September 26th and 27th

Location: 600 Briscoe Blvd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

NOTE: Sign-up sheets will be available on the GARS website

Please visit the GARS website at www.gars.org for more details on these and other events

Break

Program

Happenings - Past and Future

Field Day Wrap Up – with another successful Field Day in the books, let's review some of the hi-lites from this year:

3,555 QSO's

46 Operators

11,800 points

Top Operator "Vaden McDonald" NN4K recorded 374 CW QSO's.

Rookie of the Year was awarded to Donna McCord, KM4FMW who recorded 209 QSO's.

David Adcock, KA4KKF was recognized for all his efforts in planning and executing what many are referring to as the best Field Day ever.

GARS won the Digital Challenge against North Fulton and will be getting Ice Cream

Congratulations to everyone!

13 Colonies Contest – audience polling indicated that a large number of GARS members not only participated in the contest but also completed a "clean sweep" making contact with all 13 of the original colonies

Dog Show

Date: August 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th

Time: 6:00am to 2:00pm

Location: 3650 Jonesboro Rd SE, Atlanta, GA 30354

NOTE: Sign-up sheets will be available on the GARS website

DC3 Special Events Station

Date: September 26th and 27th

Location: 600 Briscoe Blvd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

NOTE: Sign-up sheets will be available on the GARS website

(Extracted from Meeting Minutes by Nick, N4NCQ)

GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
2	3 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	4 6:30 - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	5 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	6	7	8 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
9	10 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	11 5:00 - 6:30 PM Flying Machine Dinner 7:00 - 9:00pm GARS Meeting	12 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	13	14	15 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
16	17 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	18	19 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	20	21	22 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
23	24 7:30 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	25	26 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	27	28	29 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
30						

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) VEC: WCARS Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) VEC: WCARS Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p>Second Saturday 10:00 AM Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center 13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Ian Kahn, KM4IK E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months VEC: ARRL 8:30 a.m. GMC Community Ctr 5325 Leon St. Stone Mountain, GA Frank Haynes, KV4SP (678) 467-3712</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 2 pm (Except December) Lifeway Church 1654 Atlanta Highway #109 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 Email: n5smd@comcast.net</p> <p><i>(cont. next column)</i></p>	<p>On Sunday July 12 we had a very good testing session. Four applicants tested and they all passed.</p> <p>We had 4 upgrades:</p> <p>1 - Extra 1 - General 2 - Techicians</p> <p>Thanks to the following VE team members for their work:</p> <p>Steve Bach, WB2OGY Rick Cobb, N4XYV Robert Pursely, WD4KQQ Harold Prosser, KK1B Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN Mark Felig, WA6NGC Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ Dave Bruse, W4DTR, C-VE Don Bagby, KK4NJM, Co-CVE Frank Kaynes, KV4SP Nick Doemland, AB4CQ</p> <p><i>73, Sid Weaver, N4NQ, Co-CVE</i></p> <p>GARS VE Team Leader Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>GARS VE Website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See www.w4aql.com Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 acarver@ece.gatech.edu</p>	<p>First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p>First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-) For more, go to: http://www.gars.org/</p>

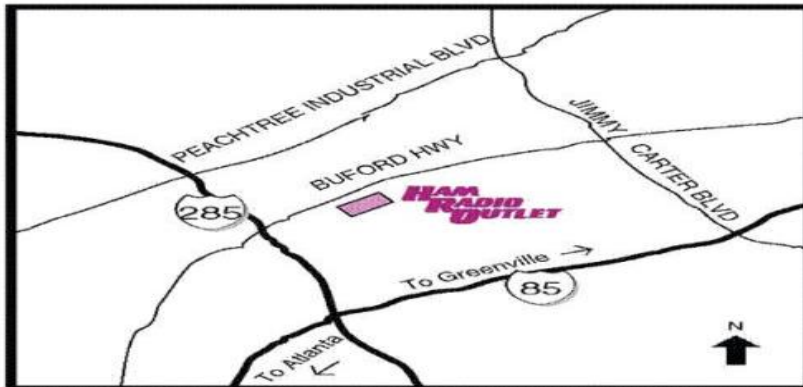
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